

COUNCILLOR VACANCY ON CHINNOR PARISH COUNCIL

Following the resignation of one of our councillors, who was a member of our Planning Committee, applications are sought from qualified persons who are interested in being considered for co-option to fill the vacancy.

To qualify for co-option as a Parish Councillor applicants must:

- *be a Commonwealth citizen, or citizen of the Republic of Ireland, or a citizen of another Member State of the European Community*
 - *be aged 18 years or over.*
 - *be an elector of the parish, or*
- *during the whole of the last 12 months have occupied as owner or tenant land or other premises in the parish, or*
- *live within 4.8 kilometres (three miles) of the parish boundary*

Please contact CPC office and request an application form:

Phone: 01844 353267

- **Email: chinnorpc@btconnect.com**
- **Address: Mrs Liz Folley, Clerk,
Chinnor Parish Council Office,
Community Pavilion, Station Road, Chinnor,
Oxfordshire, OX39 4PU**

Deadline for applications:
Friday 3rd April 2020



Chinnor Parish Council

Annual Reports **2019-2020**



Contact CPC

Community Pavilion, Station Road, Chinnor, OX39 4PU

Phone: 01844 353267

Email: chinnorpc@btconnect.com

Website: www.chinnorparishcouncil.org.uk

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Chinnor Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report by Cllr Robin Williams

Having now served three terms on the Chinnor Parish Council I have to say that I still find it to be challenging but rewarding. For the last four years I have held the post of Chairman of the Council a post which is only enjoyable if you have the support of the rest of the Council. That support I have found ongoing where each and every Councillor, past and present, have shown commitment and dedication in providing the best for the Parish – this would also include our two District Councils and our County Councillor.

The Council has supported various local community activities and have been able, in many cases, to meet their Grant requests. A special thank you to all those involved in such activities, many of which if not all, are volunteers. So to all those who contribute to our community, through such selfless actions, I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation. Such commitment demonstrates just what a wonderful community exists in our great Parish a community that has grown but has not lost its community spirit.

I would also extend my sincere thanks to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering group who continue to work on enhancing the Plan. A Plan that has proved of value preventing some unwanted housing developments, but lacks in certain areas which is now being addressed through the Review. A Review that has been through Public Consultation and is now with the Neighbourhood Plan Inspector whose report is expected shortly. That Report could call for a Referendum so if this occurs I would ask you to please go out and vote.

In closing I would like to thank all Parish Councillors, past and present, for their untiring efforts. I would also like to pass on my sincere thanks to Liz and Jo, our Parish Clerks, who are at the front line in serving the community and serve it extremely well. Last but not least is our two Groundsmen, Lee and Trevor, who are out in all weathers ensuring our streets and green spaces are clean and tidy – Thank you all.

The Parish Council allocated a budget of £15,000 in order for groups providing services to the local residents to apply for funding towards worthy projects.

Financial contributions were made to the following groups:

- £1574 Jack and Jill Pre-school to replace flooring in their premises
- £1750 St Andrew's Church Hall to decorate the toilets and store room
- £ 743 Greening Chinnor to replace stiles and gates on footpaths at Henton
- £ 750 Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway to provide trips for Care Home Residents and re-enactment trips for Mill Lane School Children
- £1450 St Andrew's School to purchase fencing and kits for forest school
- £1000 Chinnor Silver Band to purchase a new Cornet
- £ 538 Mill Lane School to purchase willow fence and tools for Forest School
- £2000 Red Kite Family Centre for ongoing support and services to Chinnor
- £ 450 Royal British Legion to update order of service for Remembrance
- £ 800 Chinnor Ladies Football Club to purchase a new football kit
- £1786 Chinnor FC essential ground repairs to goalmouths and centre circle.
- £ 300 Life Education for the educational bus to attend St Andrew's School
- £ 545 Ladybird Pre-School to purchase a puppet theatre
- £1000 Passion Play for staging costs of Easter Play 2020
- £1000 Youth Football Club for pitch maintenance at White's Field.

Other funding commitments

Conigre and St Andrews Play Areas have needed extra maintenance over the past year and a grant was received to re-surface Conigre.

The Council signed up to an Environment Policy and was pleased that they were able to plant 80 new trees at Hill Road Recreation Area.

The Tennis Club has undergone major refurbishment and with new floodlights in place and an electronic booking service it is a facility open to all of the community.

With support from local people a further 4 defibrillators have been installed with an aim to ensure that residents are not further than 50metres access.

Support continues for the invaluable work that the Good Neighbours Scheme provides to our residents by the provision of their phone line and office support.

The Council also takes responsibility for the provision of the Youth Club which is held at White's Field.

Planning Committee Report by Cllr Martin Wright

March 2020

Probably the biggest event of the planning year has been the negotiations which have gone on concerning the emerging SODC Local Plan.

Initially, the newly elected SODC members wished to withdraw the plan which would have meant the agreed plan with the rest of Oxfordshire would have been disrupted. Following several months of negotiations, the Secretary of State has directed that the Plan will proceed through examination to completion without further amendment, with a finish date of December 2020.

Our other items of significance are the Chinnor Neighbourhood Plan.

This, in its current state, has already defeated several developments, including one to the rear of Lower Icknield Way, and another on Thame Road.

The Neighbourhood Plan is currently being revised and strengthened, and SODC are already taking note of this improvement, and will now carry full weight.

All the major developments currently in progress around the village are moving towards completion. The Parish Council, in conjunction with SODC, are working to ensure that all of the conditions and commitments are carried out, with the enforcement department at SODC being involved where ever necessary.

Areas requiring resolving at the moment include the allotment and parking area adjacent to Mill Lane School, the refuse vehicle turning circle at Old Kiln Lakes and the acoustic fence by the railway, also at Old Kiln Lakes.

Persimmon Homes, for development off Greenwood Avenue, are yet to achieve acceptance of their Reserved Matters application. CPC has objected to the Reserved Matter submission.

Although CPC are becoming more successful in the control of development, there has been several problems along Lower Icknield Way when the objections on the grounds of access and traffic dangers have not over ridden permission to infill.

The Parish Council will continue to monitor carefully all new applications, and will endeavour to keep further development in the Parish to a reduced minimum.

Greening Chinnor by Linda Brawn

March 2020

It is now over a year since we took on the land that has become Donkey Lane Community Orchard and an amazing transformation has taken place. A year ago working party numbers had to be limited because it was densely packed with overgrowth. Now it is a beautiful, tranquil open space.

We couldn't have done this without the generosity of the landowner, Mr Derek Nixey and the support of Chinnor Parish Council and funding through the Chiltern Conservation Boards 'Chalk, Cherry & Chairs' project. We also have an amazing group of enthusiastic volunteers whose attachment to the orchard is plain to see.

Over the last year, as well as clearing a vast amount of ivy, brambles and rubbish, we have held 3 successful events; an Apple Blossom day, Chinnor Open Gardens and Apple Pressing in the autumn. We have found 21 apple trees some of which date back to the mid-1800s and the Chinnor Plum. We've had support from the RHS and Mid Shires Orchard Group and believe that about a third of the apple trees have now been identified. These include Lane's Prince Albert and Newton Wonder as well as the ever popular Bramley.

We will continue to maintain what has been cleared and start to work down towards the railway line whilst being sensitive to the needs of wildlife. We also plan to hold at least 3 orchard events this year

The orchard is part of an 'Edible Chinnor' initiative to grow, source and in time, link, food produced locally. This includes planters in Station Road and at the Pavilion to show how food can be produced in small areas and how we can reduce our food mileage. All are encouraged to try what's grown there and to come and exchange seeds and plants at our annual Seed & Plant Swap.

To lessen our environmental impact, we hold Repair Cafés to encourage skills sharing and help reduce waste as well as our biannual Community Litter Picks.

To find out more about our projects visit our website at

www.greeningchinnor.blogspot.co.uk

or follow us on Facebook @greeningchinnor

Chinnor Parish Paths by Alan Brawn

March 2020

The Chinnor Parish path network of 44 bridleways and footpaths has finally seen some long awaited improvements to some of the stiles and footbridges which are in greatest need of attention.

As the village Parish Path Warden, I have been working directly with the Oxfordshire County Council Countryside Access team and the Chiltern Society and this approach is really starting to pay dividends. There is a major proposal under review by the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment for funding to replace all of the ramshackle stiles with pedestrian gates around Emmington. This will be followed by a further submission in late spring to upgrade the problem areas between Henton and Forty Green. Oxfordshire County Council have recently replaced all of the damaged and broken stiles and footbridges between Chinnor and Emmington.

A generous grant from Chinnor Parish Council enabled the Chiltern Society to carry out much needed work around Henton. At the beginning of 2019 there were 327 outstanding issues reported by members of the public. By the end of the year and after a major push by all the involved bodies, 155 or 48% were deemed resolved.



South Oxfordshire District Council Report by D/Cllr Lynn Lloyd and Ian White

Since the Last District Council Election, Lynn serves on the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee as Chair, Climate Emergency Advisory Committee and Community Grants Panel and has been the Chiltern Conservation Board member for the district for the last seven years.

Since the last District Council Election, Ian serves as Chair on the Scrutiny and Joint Scrutiny Committees, on the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee and the Planning Committee.

Since last year, we have;

- Given £20k of Councillor Grants to local organisations like Chinnor Village Hall, Chinnor Tennis Club, the Reading Room, Chinnor Community Pavilion, the Chinnor Rifle and Pistol Club and Chinnor Community Church, Oxford Lowlands Search & Rescue.
- Worked with and supported the Parish Council with responses to planning applications and Appeals, and provided our own input at District Level on Planning Appeals, S106 & CIL, and consultations.
- Supported production of the Neighbourhood Plan review
- Helped residents with Planning Applications and Appeals, general day to day issues such as Fly tipping and Waste services.
- Supported District Leisure Facilities with projects for Go Active Gold, Diabetes
- Supported the reduction of homelessness
- Supported safeguarding and removed dangerous taxi drivers
- Put forward the Local Plan 2034 for Inspection
- Agreed the Growth Deal for Oxfordshire which will unlock funding for Infrastructure in the District



Listening Learning Leading

Finance and General Purposes Committee Report by Cllr Neil Flint March 2020

This year has been another exciting one for Chinnor Parish Council.

We continue to invest in local initiatives and events that support the community. We appreciate the support of everyone in our community and are always pleased to see the support for local events. We had another successful year with the August Marquee on Whites Field with a range of amazing events. All of which generated much needed income to these invaluable organisations at the heart of our community.

This year has seen continued hard work by council staff to undertake their duty and maintain our wonderful village. It is important for us all to consider the legacy we leave for future generations.

The Council continues to strive to ensure your money is spent diligently and with appropriate scrutiny. We have actively spent this year assessing expenditure and sought opportunities to reduce this where we can. This can often be a challenge as I'm sure all personally experience in everyday life, particularly for us with the expansion of the village where our services and infrastructure come under greater demand. We take our role seriously as custodians of a number of village facilities – without which a number of groups and clubs would have nowhere to offer their services.

Following on from our work over the last few years to review these sites to identify areas for improvement, we have also been gathering information on financial support available, such as CIL and Section 106 monies that will enable us to invest and sustain these premises. This has resulted in a long term sustainable plan that ensures the facilities remain functional, in good condition and accessible for all the community. Over the next year, we will be looking to start to implement this long term plan and leave a positive legacy for our future generations. We anticipate our starting point will be to look at opportunities to improve and refresh the facilities at White's Field to extend its lifecycle and access for the community.

As well as these initiatives, we have also continued to invest in the safety of our community and continued partnership with Thames Valley Police through funded PCSO. However, with feedback from our community, we have taken the difficult decision to cease funding from April 2020. As such, we are mindful of the concerns many may feel as a result of this and are eager to work with individuals and groups in the community to ensure our neighbourhood is safe for everyone.

Please take the opportunity to join us at one of our finance committee meetings to learn more and discuss your thoughts with us during the public question time.

Amenities Committee Report by Cllr Sue Ashdown March 2020

Once again a very interesting year. A year full of exciting projects and new ideas. It is always good to receive feedback from Chinnor residents which as far as possible always get acted upon.

We have been actively involved in the Government's Environmental Emergency. Your Parish council fully supports this Emergency and in every way possible is recycling, reusing, reducing and using local suppliers to reduce our energy consumption. We have set up an Environmental Working Group who has produced Chinnor's first Environment Policy which lays down Green Policies for the Parish Council to implement and follow.

Chinnor is fortunate in having a great many dedicated and passionate people who follow their personal causes with great enthusiasm. The Parish Council supports these causes and where possible finances and offers advice, if required.

Recently the Greening Chinnor who is successful in many Parish projects already wanted to develop the old orchard at the bottom of Donkey Lane. This has now entered its second year of operation and moves from strength to strength. If anyone would like to get involved in any aspect of Greening Chinnor please see their article in this booklet for all contact details.

The Allotment Society is also looking forward to the future. Their register is full with a healthy waiting list. With this in mind they will be actively fundraising this year to get the old Allotment Hut removed and a nice new one to replace it.

Our Play Areas which are all constantly in use, with Conigre Play Area being as ever our busiest. Their success brings problems with maintenance and safety which of course as always is our main consideration. We pride ourselves that all our play areas are safe and inviting places for our young people to play.

We recently tried to set up a Youth Council - sadly this was not met with the enthusiasm that we envisaged. We as a Parish Council value our Youth and their ideas - so, not to be put off we have arranged for members of the Council to visit our local schools to encourage comments from their own School Youth Councils to be taken forward to Parish Council. Hopefully this will help our young people to feel as if their feelings and ideas are important.

My thanks go to Lee and Trevor our ever intrepid hard working maintenance Team. Lee and Trevor work hard keeping our streets looking clean and tidy. All of us who have dogs please pick up after them where ever you are. Dogs mess is not pleasant and it is so easy to pick up and pop into one of the many bins. Let us all keep Chinnor clean and of course the best place in the World to live.

This year sees the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe.

VE Day and VJ Day celebration.

We as a community are organising a weekend of Celebrations. Our Celebrations will commence on Friday 8th May, which is a bank holiday, with a party in the park.

This has all the hallmarks of being a lovely celebratory Day with The Silver Band, Churchill's recorded Victory Speech, tea tent, BBQ stand and so much more.

Put the date in your diary and bring the whole family along.

WE NEED YOU!

VE DAY - Celebrations in Chinnor

VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY - MAY 8TH

Picnic in the Park
8th May 2020

We are hoping to bring the community together for the 75th Anniversary of VE Day - the day peace emerged after nearly six years of war and represents an important milestone in our history. We cannot let this day pass without reflection on the enormous sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw us through this dark period.

8th May 2020 will be an international celebration of peace - a time to remember, reflect and pay tribute to the millions who played such a vital part in achieving it.

Laura Willis - Pavilion Steward email: ChinnorPavilion@gmail.com
Tel: 07766 164312

Liz Folley - Parish Clerk email: chinnorparishcouncil@btconnect.com
Tel: 01844 353267

SAVE THE DATE



Matthew Barber's **POLICE & CRIME CONVERSATION**



- Find out more about the role of your Police & Crime Commissioner
- Discuss your priorities for the future of policing in the Thames Valley
- Raise local issue of concern about policing and crime in your area

Join the conversation...

DATE Thursday 26th March 2020

VENUE

TIME 6.30-8pm

Kingston Blount Village Hall
Baker's Piece
Kingston Blount
Chinnor, OX39 4SW

REGISTER

Registration is **NOT REQUIRED** - you can just turn up - but if you do register in advance it will help us to judge numbers for the venue.

You can register online and find out more at
www.matthewbarber.co.uk/jointheconversation

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Matthew Barber
Your candidate for Thames Valley
Police & Crime Commissioner

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